

POPULAR NOTION EXPLODED

Idea That Pastors' Sons Usually Go Ruinous Route Quickest Is Scoffed At.

It has long been a popular notion that clergymen's sons are less likely to achieve distinction in life than the children of laymen, says the Detroit News. This is probably due to the fact that when a clergyman's son goes to the dogs in a fashion that attracts public notice his father's calling is always lugged into the story, but when the son of a lawyer or of a member of any other profession disgraces himself in a similar way no account is taken of the relationship. Bishop Welldon has proved the popular notion to be a fallacy. In an article which he has just published in the Fortnightly Review, in London, he shows that against the 510 and 3,770 children of lawyers and doctors, respectively, who have won eminence in English history, 1,250 sons of the parsonage have attained fame. The list includes among philosophers Cudworth, Hartley, Hobbes, Reid, Dugald Stewart, Thomas Hill Green and Henry Sidgwick; in art, Sir Joshua Reynolds and Sir Christopher Wren; among the poets, Ben Jonson, Fletcher, Marvell, Otway, Thompson, Tickell, Comper and Tennyson; among the historians, Alison, Fuller, Hallam, Robertson and Froude; among the novelists, Charles Kingsley.

FARMER AND "PARTY WIRE"

He Likes to Hear Everybody on the Line Talk—Social Hunger His Excuse.

When the independent telephone companies first began to come together in conventions to exchange experiences, one fact was always commented upon with great curiosity by the managers of town or city plants, says Success. This was that they invariably met with failure in their endeavors to induce farmers to put in what are known as "lockout" devices, by means of which every telephone on a party line becomes practically a private wire.

In cities, the party line is considered a great nuisance, because there is no privacy in conversations, and all the bells on the line are rung each time a subscriber calls. Naturally, the managers of plants figured that this objection prevailed in the country also; but, almost without exception, they found that one of the great attractions to the farmer was that his telephone did ring every time the other 16 or 20 people on the line rang up, and that he could hear or be overheard in conversation. It was a practical demonstration of the social hunger the farmer has endured for centuries, and which is now ended, thanks to the arrival of telephone competition.

Proof of the Pudding.

Ethel—I rather like that young Doubleday. He has a good firm mouth and chin.

Myrtle—Goodness! Has he been kissing you, too?

The Bogs of Ireland.

It is estimated that the bogs of Ireland contain the equivalent of 5,000,000 tons of coal, ten tons of peat being worth a ton of ordinary coal.

Ireland's New Great Seal.

The new great seal of Ireland is distinguishable from the English emblem in a very small particular only. This is that in the conventional border beneath the table a crowned harp is substituted for a trident. It is also an interesting fact that the new seals are struck in silver in the large medal press at the mint—a method never before attempted—and that the seal and counter seal of Ireland received no fewer than 793 blows before they were perfected.

GERMANY'S TOWNS AHEAD.

More Cities of 100,000 People or Over Than Any Other Country.

Any city of more than 100,000 inhabitants is considered a great city. Of these Germany has more than any other country—namely, 41.

Great Britain and the United States have 39 each. Then there is a break until we reach Russia, with 16; France, with 15; Italy, with 12, and Japan and Austria-Hungary with 8 each.

When the present German empire was founded, in 1871, Germany had only five such cities, but by 1900 they numbered 33. Five of them had more than 500,000 population each. Berlin, for instance, has more than 3,000,000 inhabitants. The next largest is Hamburg (800,000), followed by Munich, Dresden and Leipzig.

In five years Krupp's town of Essen has increased 93 per cent. Cologne, with its 426,000 people, has had an astonishing growth.

WHY HAIR TURNS GRAY.

Coloring Material Moved to the Roots in Certain Cases—Depends on Granules.

The color of the hair depends on little granules, which can be seen if the hair be examined under a powerful microscope, says the St. Nicholas. Sometimes the hair may become white in a night. Brown-Sequard tells us that when he was 45 years old his beard turned white in two days. This took place when he was perfectly well and without any especial cause. Sometimes, however, sorrow or illness produces the change earlier in life than it would usually take place.

As to the cause, some have said that the hair becomes filled with small air-particles which make it look gray; others have said that the outer part of the hair becomes altered so that it is like ground glass and you cannot see the color. But a man by the name of Metchnikoff tells us that the real reason is because small movable bodies in the hair devour the grains of coloring matter and move them to the root of the hair. Sometimes poisons in disease, or some result of sorrow, bring about an effect upon these small migrating bodies (cells), causing them to become active in the above fashion. That is said to be the reason why the hair grows gray.

Pauper Clergymen.

Some remarkable statements regarding pauperism among the clergy of the Church of England are obtained in a pamphlet issued by Rev. Henry J. Swallow, honorary secretary of the Clergy Provident union. With the permission of the local government board, Mr. Swallow applied to 700 unions and asylums in England and Wales for particulars as to the number of pauper clergymen who had been admitted during the last ten years. The result was to show that no fewer than 42 clergymen had been admitted into county and borough pauper asylums and 61 into union work-houses.

Couldn't Scare Him.

"I'm ashamed of this composition, Charley," said a teacher in one of the local schools this morning. "I shall send for your mother and show her how bad you are doing."

"Send for her—I don't care," said Charley. "Me nudder wrote it, anyway."—Albany Journal.

Pencil City.

Nuremberg is, and has been for years, the great center of the pencil trade, possessing between 30 and 40 factories, which give employment to from 8,000 to 10,000 hands, while the annual output of pencils numbers 350,000,000, of a value of upwards of \$2,500,000.

MUTILATION OF ANIMALS.

Senseless Notions Lead Men to Resort to Cruel and Useless Remedies.

The horse is not the only animal man cruelly mutilates," said a veterinary surgeon. "The game cock is clubbed, the dog is wormed, the cat is cropped, and so on.

"Worming, the world over, is believed by the ignorant to be a preventive of canine madness, and hence many a good dog is put through it. The worm is a small tendon connecting the underpart of the tongue with the floor of the mouth, and to cut the worm pains the dog cruelly, gives him a sore mouth of long duration and makes lapping difficult for him for the rest of his life.

"Dr. Samuel Johnson evidently understood that there was something absurd about worming, for in his dictionary he says it is that 'the worm is a substance, nobody knows what, extracted nobody knows why.'

"Yet worming is still practiced on dogs."

Good Common Law.

One of the absurdities of the law was strikingly illustrated at Shrewsbury quarter sessions recently, when a man was charged with stealing a quantity of lead from the veranda of an empty house. The lead, said the Recorder, was attached to the veranda and thereby became part of the freehold. As part of the freehold the lead was land in the eye of the law. Land could not be stolen, and therefore the prisoner could not be convicted of larceny. According to the Recorder the only remedy of the owner against a person taking lead from the roof of a building is to bring a civil action for damages! Truly the law is "a hass" if it was correctly laid down in this case.—London Truth.

JAPANESE HAND-WARMER.

An Odd Contrivance Made to Be Carried in the Pocket or Muff.

The Japanese hand warmer is a thin, slightly curved metallic box about the size of one's hand, and designed to be carried in the pocket or in a muff. It is made either of tin or of copper, and covered with cloth or embossed velvet. The cover slides in grooves.

You pull open the sliding cover and put into the box a cake of prepared charcoal, made for the purpose and fitted in the box—you get ten of these cakes when you buy the warmer—and then you light this fuel cake and close the cover. It doesn't blaze up or smoke, but burns smolderingly and gives out heat for a considerable time.

Valuable Find of Royal Treasure.

The director of the treasury of Rio de Janeiro, while hunting for some lost papers, has made an astonishing discovery. A box which had not apparently been disturbed for many years was found to contain gold, silver and diamonds to the value of at least £140,000. Among the valuables recovered are the imperial crown and scepter of Brazil, valued at £21,000, and the imperial mantle bordered with gold. The box in which the treasure was found is believed to have been deposited in the treasury since 1836.

Meaning of Empire.

Here is an eloquent picture of the empire in a few sentences. The king has in Asia more than 300,000,000 subjects; in America, 7,500,000; in Africa, about 43,000,000; in Australasia, over 5,000,000, and in Europe, over 42,000,000. Classifying them broadly by religions, there are 208,000,000 Hindus, 94,000,000 Mohammedans, 58,000,000 Christians, 12,000,000 Buddhists and 23,000,000 of various pagan or non-Christian religions.

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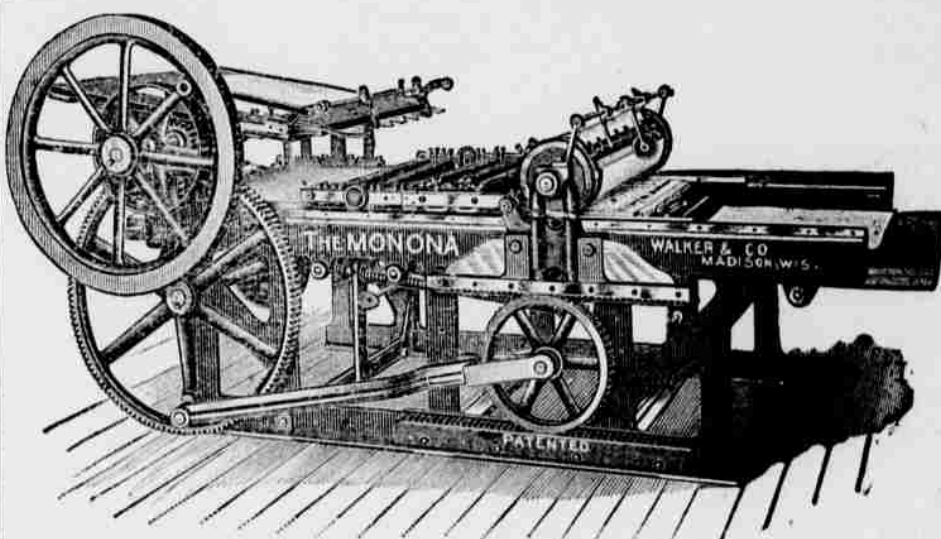
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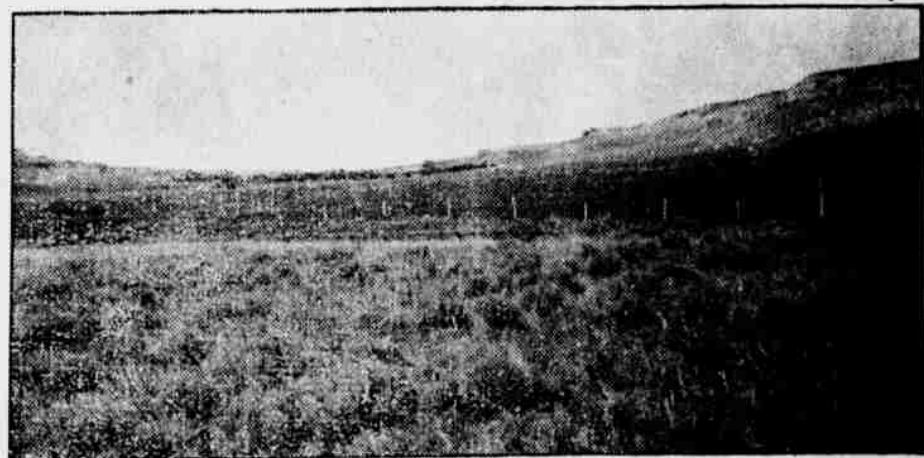
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Cut showing new cylinder press recently installed in The News Office.



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Enjoy Sorrow.

Some people would be dreadfully sad if they could not take an occasional excursion into the land of sorrow.

Worry of Getting Well.

After a man has passed the critical stage of his illness he begins to worry about his doctor's bill.